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December 3, 2007

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Application No. 09/300,482
Filed: April 28, 1999
Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated
with the Phosphogluconate Pathway
Applicant(s): Nordine CHEIKH *et al.*
Atty. Docket: 16517.216

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO):

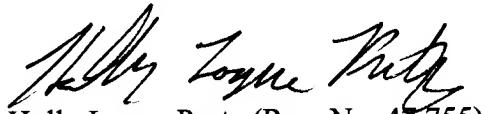
1. a Request for Oral Hearing Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

Applicants request that the following fees be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2387 referencing docket number 16517.216:

\$ 1,030.00 Request for Oral Hearing Fee

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any fees, other than the above (\$1,030.00), are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any additional fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387 referencing matter number 16517.216.

Respectfully submitted,


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Enclosures